

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (Twice Amended): A pop-up fastener, comprising:

a tubular retainer being adapted for one-way passage into a socket;
a fastening member slidably extending through said retainer, said fastening member having helical threads at its top and a protrusion at its bottom; and,
a compressed spring being positioned atop said retainer, and being separated by said retainer from said protrusion, for urging said protrusion into engagement with the bottom of said retainer and for urging said helical threads away from the top of said retainer.

Claim 2 (Original): The pop-up fastener according to claim 1 wherein said tubular retainer and said fastening member are keyed such that they cannot rotate relative to one another.

Claim 3 (Original): The pop-up fastener according to claim 1 wherein said tubular retainer comprises:

a tubular sleeve having a longitudinal passageway slidably receiving said fastening member; and,
a wedge fastened to said tubular sleeve, said wedge being a bowl with a serrated rim defining a plurality of outwardly and upwardly extending teeth.

Claim 4 (Original): The pop-up fastener according to claim 3 wherein said tubular retainer further comprises a pair of said wedges, one being fastened to the top of said tubular sleeve and other being fastened to the bottom of said tubular sleeve.

Claim 5 (Original): The pop-up fastener according to claim 1 wherein said fastening member includes an outwardly extending peripheral flange between said helical threads and said protrusion, and wherein said compressed spring is coiled about said fastening member and engages the bottom of said outwardly extending peripheral flange and the top of said retainer.

Claim 6 (Original): A pop-up fastener, comprising:

a retainer including:

a tubular sleeve having a longitudinal passageway; and,

a wedge fastened to said tubular sleeve and having a serrated rim with a plurality of outwardly and upwardly extending teeth;

a fastening member slidably extending through said longitudinal passageway of said tubular sleeve, said fastening member having helical threads at its top, a protrusion at its bottom, and an outwardly extending peripheral flange between said helical threads and said protrusion; and,

a compressed spring being positioned atop said tubular sleeve for urging said protrusion into engagement with the bottom of said tubular sleeve and for urging said peripheral flange away from the top of said tubular sleeve.

Claim 7 (Original): The pop-up fastener according to claim 6 wherein said tubular sleeve and said fastening member are keyed such that they cannot rotate relative to one another.

Claim 8 (Original): The pop-up fastener according to claim 7 wherein said longitudinal passageway and said fastening member are provided with close-fitting polygonal cross sections.

Claim 9 (Original): The pop-up fastener according to claim 7 wherein said compressed spring is coiled about said fastening member and engages the bottom of said peripheral flange and the top of said tubular sleeve.

Claim 10 (Previously Amended): A pop-up fastener, comprising:

a retainer including:

a tubular sleeve having a central portion with a pair of end portions extending from the top and bottom thereof, said end portions having a relatively smaller diameter than that of said central portion so as to form a pair of shoulders at the junctions of said central portion and said end portions, and said tubular sleeve also having a longitudinal passageway with a constricted segment with a first polygonal cross section; and,

a pair of wedges with each being positioned upon a respective one of said shoulders and secured there to the respective shoulder by bending said end portions outwardly, each of said wedges having a serrated rim with a plurality of outwardly and upwardly extending teeth;

a fastening member slidably extending through said longitudinal passageway of said tubular sleeve, said fastening member having: a plurality of helical threads at the top thereof, a protrusion at the bottom thereof, and an outwardly extending peripheral flange positioned between said helical threads and said protrusion, and said fastening member having a keyed portion between said peripheral flange and said protrusion for slidable positioning within said constricted segment having a second polygonal cross section, said second polygonal cross section being incapable of turning within said first polygonal cross section; and,

a compressed spring being coiled about said fastening member and engaging the bottom of said peripheral flange and the top of said tubular sleeve for urging said protrusion into engagement with the bottom of said tubular sleeve and for urging said peripheral flange away from the top of said tubular sleeve.